

I oppose further media consolidation. While consolidation provides broadcasters with cost savings, business efficiencies, and greater market control, those are not acceptable objectives for a democracy dedicated to free speech and the exchange of ideas. Just the opposite. Diversity of opinion and media options requires a wide variety of media ownership. The FCC should be revising the rules to promote greater diversity, not enabling companies to further consolidate their control over U.S. media outlets. In addition, the FCC has no right to vote on a specific plan for media consolidation without prior, extensive public comment on that specific plan -- to act otherwise is to make a mockery of the public comment process. I urge the FCC to back away from its ill-advised plan to rush a vote on a media consolidation proposal that no one but industry supports. Thank you for this limited opportunity to comment.